

What is claimed is:

1. A method of determining a value of a function of a variable, the method comprising: receiving a value of the variable; and determining the value of the function of the variable based on the received value of the variable.

1 1. A remote control unit comprising:
2 a control device adapted to remotely control an
3 electronic device; and
4 a telephone unit adapted to enable remote
5 communication with a telephone network.

1 2. The remote control unit of claim 1 wherein said
2 control device includes:
3 a receiver that receives an infrared command
4 signal in a first format; and
5 a transmitter that transmits an infrared command
6 signal in a second format.

1 3. The remote control unit of claim 1 wherein said
2 telephone unit includes a transceiver adapted to remotely
3 communicate with a telephone network.

1 4. The remote control unit of claim 3 wherein said
2 transceiver is a radio frequency transceiver tunable to the
3 carrier frequency used by another wireless telephone.

1 5. The remote control unit of claim 4 wherein said
2 telephone unit includes a device which is automatically
3 tuned to the carrier frequency of another wireless
4 telephone.

1 6. The remote control unit of claim 1 including a
2 repeater for forwarding a wireless transmission received by
3 a first device to an electrical device.

1 7. A remote control system for an electronic device
2 comprising:
3 a first device including a processor and a radio
4 frequency transceiver and an infrared transceiver, said
5 processor arranged to control said infrared and radio-
6 frequency transceivers; and
7 a remote control unit including a device adapted
8 to remotely control an electronic device and a telephone
9 unit adapted to enable remote communication with a
10 telephone network.

1 8. The remote control system of claim 7 wherein said
2 telephone unit includes a radio frequency transceiver
3 adapted to remotely communicate with said telephone
4 network.

1 9. The remote control system of claim 8 wherein said
2 transceiver is tunable to the carrier frequency used by
3 another wireless telephone.

1 10. The remote control system of claim 9 wherein said
2 telephone unit includes a device which is automatically
3 tuned to the frequency of another wireless telephone.

1 11. The remote control system of claim 7 including a
2 repeater for forwarding a wireless transmission received
3 from the first device to said electronic device.

1 12. The remote control system of claim 7 wherein said
2 first device and said remote control unit are adapted to
3 /communicate both by radio frequency and infrared signals.

1 13. The remote control system of claim 12 wherein
2 said first device and said remote control unit communicate
3 via bidirectional infrared signals and said remote control
4 unit communicates with said electronic device using
5 unidirectional infrared signals.

1 14. The remote control system of claim 7 wherein said
2 remote control unit is adapted to act as radio frequency
3 transceiver for telephone communications with said first
4 device.

1 15. The remote control system of claim 7 wherein said
2 first device is a set-top computer system.

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X3/ 1 16. A method of completing a telephone call
2 comprising:
3 enabling a user to receive a telephone call on a
4 remote control unit; and

5 enabling the user to control an electronic device
6 using said remote control unit.

1 17. The method of claim 16 further including using a
2 processor based system that detects an incoming call and
3 produces an off hook signal.

1 18. The method of claim 17 further including
2 converting signals from a telephone network into radio
3 frequency signals and transmitting said signals to the
4 remote control unit.

1 19. The method of claim 18 further including
2 detecting the carrier frequency of a proximate wireless
3 telephone and adopting said frequency as the carrier
4 frequency for communications with said remote control unit.

1 20. An article comprising a medium for storing
2 instructions that cause a processor based system to:
3 enable a user to receive a telephone call on a
4 remote control unit; and
5 enable the user to control an electronic device
6 using said remote control unit.

1 21. The article of claim 20 including instructions
2 that cause a processor based system to prompt for a
3 wireless telephone carrier frequency.

1 22. The article of claim 20 including instructions
2 that cause a processor based system to prompt the user to
3 issue a page from the user's wireless telephone.

1 23. The article of claim 20 including instructions
2 that cause a processor based system to use the carrier
3 frequency of another wireless telephone.

1 24. The article of claim 20 including instructions
2 that cause a processor based system to produce a telephone
3 off hook signal when an incoming call is detected.

1 25. The article of claim 20 including instructions
2 that cause a processor based system to receive infrared
3 command signals in one format and to transmit infrared
4 command signals in a second format.

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instruct
cause
Call phone
to issue a page